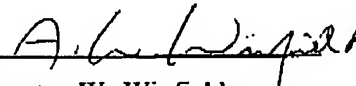can specify that there is one owner, and the data may also specify that there are multiple owners or no owners. See the four suggested useful ownership states for groups of lines listed on page 18 of the application. Claim 1 specifies the general conditions that the data can indicate, and dependent claim 3 specifies a narrower set of conditions within the general conditions that the data can indicate.

In the paper mailed 05/04/2007, claims 1 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by The Cache Memory Book. Applicant respectfully traverses. Claim 1 specifies a system to maintain identity of <u>ownership</u> of the group of lines, in addition to <u>ownership</u> of each line. Claim 7 specifies maintaining ownership information for the group of lines and for each individual line within the group of lines. The cited portion of The Cache Memory Book does not discuss ownership, much less a system for maintaining identity of ownership of a group of lines and each individual line in the group. The cited portion of The Cache Memory Book discusses validity bits, which do not indicate ownership. A line in a first cache may be invalid in that first cache, but still be valid and owned in some other cache. See, for example, the discussion in the specification at pages 11 and 12, where validity and ownership for various possible scenarios are discussed.

In addition, claim 1 specifies a cache memory that reads and caches a <u>group of lines</u> with a single memory transaction and claim 7 specifies retrieving a <u>group of lines</u> in response to a request for a single line. The discussion in the Cache Memory Book does not teach or suggest transferring a group of lines with a single memory transaction. The Cache Memory Book describes increasing the length of one line to multiple words, not transferring multiple lines. Figures 2.15 a) and b) illustrate validity bits for two different line lengths, with one word per line in figure 2.15 a) and four words per line in 2.15 b).

This application is considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

by _____
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